

President Kibaki Urges United Nations to Stop Al Shabaab
September 26, 2011

President Kibaki urged world leaders on Thursday to quickly provide Somalia with the resources needed to stop the advance of al Qaeda-linked militant group al Shabaab.

During a United Nations mini-summit on Somalia convened on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly meetings in New York, the president emphasized that "time is of the essence" and asked the international community to enhance the capabilities of both the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and of Somalia's Transitional Federal Government.

Increased assistance would enable the federal government to extend its control beyond the capital of Mogadishu, Kibaki explained.

"It will also enable AMISOM to deal effectively with additional and complex tasks such as the provision of humanitarian aid and protection of civilians," President Kibaki added. "The needed assistance must be deployed quickly to forestall the regrouping of al Shabaab."

Kibaki also explained how Somalia's instability and inability to deal with the severe famine affecting the region is "placing a lot of pressure on refugee camps and related social services, as well as [on] host communities."

"The difficulties I have described cannot be addressed by the federal government alone, nor can IGAD [East Africa's Intergovernmental Authority on Development] by itself resolve them effectively. For this reason, I urge this summit to focus on urgently mobilizing international support in aid of Somalia," he said.

To read the full *Daily Nation* article, please [click here](#).

For more information, please contact Anjali Reddy at (202) 777-3508 or areddy@clsdc.com.

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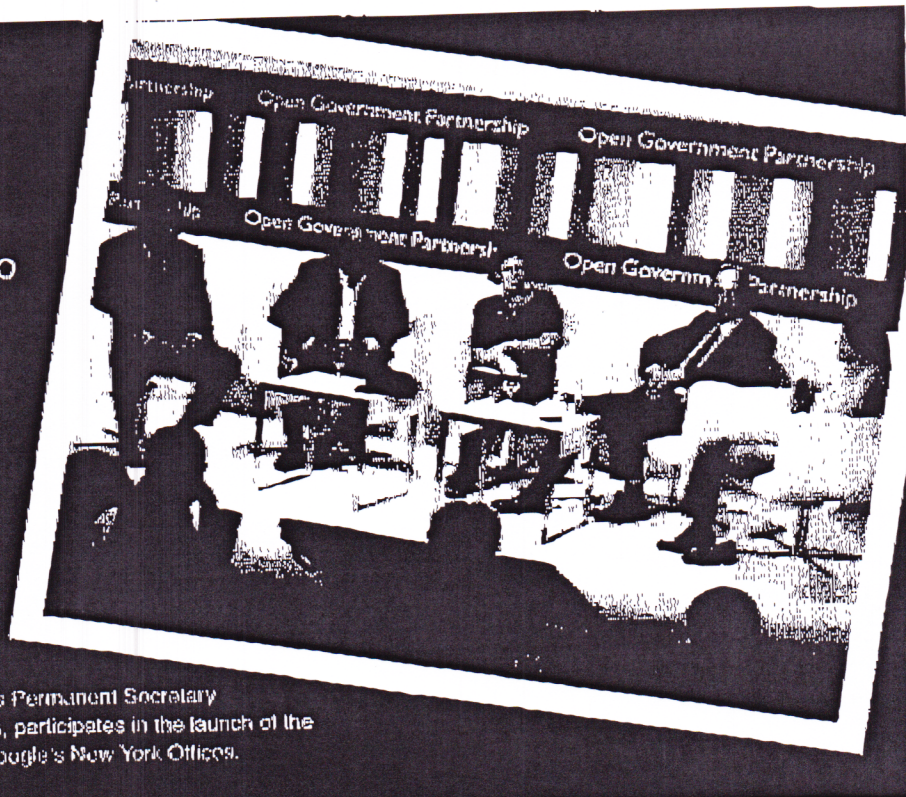
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Kenya is one of the founding countries to launch the Open Government Partnership.

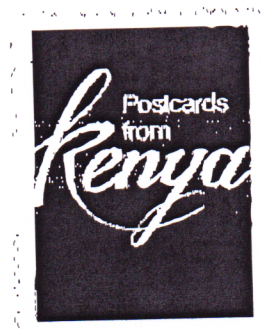


Dr. Bilange Ndemo (far left), Kenya's Permanent Secretary for Information and Communications, participates in the launch of the Open Government Partnership at Google's New York Offices.

- The Open Government Partnership, launched in September 2011 by 46 countries including the United States, Brazil and Kenya, is a multilateral initiative aimed at fighting corruption and increasing the transparency of governments around the world.
- At the launch, Kenya announced it will officially release its open government plan at the partnership's next meeting in 2012. The plan is already publicly available.
- Kenya is the first African nation to make its government data available online. The Kenya Open Data Project makes a wealth of information easily accessible to the public, including data on the national census, government expenditure and parliamentary proceedings.

Source: The Wall Street Journal

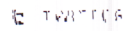
Source: Kenya Open Data Project



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Source: Africa Business Pages

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